

By: Rodriguez of Bexar

H.B. No. 3359

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to requirements for coaches of youth sports programs.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Subtitle B, Title 13, Occupations Code, is amended by adding Chapter 2053 to read as follows:

CHAPTER 2053. REQUIREMENTS FOR COACHES OF YOUTH SPORTS PROGRAM

Sec. 2053.001. DEFINITIONS. In this chapter:

(1) "Coach" means a person who provides training, teaching, or similar services to participants in a youth sports program.

(2) "Youth sports program" means an entity that provides an organized athletic program that is not associated with a school and is for children who are enrolled in kindergarten through sixth grade in a public, private, or charter school or children of similar age who are provided an education in a home setting.

Sec. 2053.002. TRAINING AND CRIMINAL HISTORY RECORD CHECK REQUIRED. (a) A person may not act as a coach for a youth sports program unless the person has successfully completed a youth sports training course that meets the requirements of this chapter and rules adopted under this chapter and includes a criminal history record check ascertaining whether the person is registered as a sex offender under Chapter 62, Code of Criminal Procedure.

(b) A youth sports training course required by this section

1 may be offered or facilitated only by a sports foundation, a  
2 nonprofit national youth sports organization that requires and  
3 administers a participant certification program, a coaches  
4 association, a national governing body as that term is defined by  
5 the Ted Stevens Olympic and Amateur Sports Act (36 U.S.C. Section  
6 220501), or a public or private high school or middle school  
7 athletic department.

8 (c) A youth sports training course must include:

9 (1) at least two hours of in-person or online specific  
10 sport skills-based coaching instruction; and

11 (2) at least two hours of in-person non-skills-based  
12 coaching instruction that, at a minimum, addresses:

13 (A) the role of a youth sports coach;

14 (B) communication and accountability by and  
15 between coaches, participants, and parents;

16 (C) suggestions for teaching and modeling life  
17 skills;

18 (D) child developmental stages and corresponding  
19 age-appropriate communication and discipline; and

20 (E) the health, safety, and legal  
21 responsibilities of coaches.

22 Sec. 2053.003. LIABILITY INSURANCE INFORMATION. An  
23 organization that provides a youth sports training course may offer  
24 to coaches attending the course information on the availability of  
25 liability insurance for the coaches and their players.

26 Sec. 2053.004. RULES. The Texas Commission of Licensing  
27 and Regulation may adopt the rules necessary to implement this

1 chapter.

2           SECTION 2. (a) Not later than December 1, 2015, the Texas  
3 Commission of Licensing and Regulation shall adopt any rules  
4 necessary to implement Chapter 2053, Occupations Code, as added by  
5 this Act.

6           (b) The changes in law made by this Act apply only to a coach  
7 who is coaching a youth sports program for a sports season that  
8 begins on or after January 1, 2016. A coach who is coaching a youth  
9 sports program during a sports season that began before that date is  
10 governed by the law in effect immediately before the effective date  
11 of this Act, and that law is continued in effect for that purpose.

12           SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2015.